CH 16

March 25, 1938.

Circular Letter No. 108.

Re: OBSERVATION OF ENGLISH PROGRAM.

To: Superintendents of Schools.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

As you know, the Department of Education, in its memorandum of September 29, issued after the meeting of superintendents held at the Ateneo on September 17, 1937, gave instructions as to time allotted to English teaching in the different subjects fields. These instructions were to be followed until new instructions were given.

As it is natural, during all periods of transition, some laxities in the observance of these instruction have occurred. I am asking, therefore, that you and the teacher exert every possible effort to see that the instructions aforementioned are not only observed bu intensified. We must avoid as far as it is humanly possible the unnecessary situation of having pupils beginning their high school career without being able to follow even simple instructions in English.

The Commissioner's office is working assiduously on plans to improve the English curriculum and the newly appointed director of the English Division will soon be instructed to visit different sections of the island to study what now is being done. I want you to avail yourselves of this opportunity to discuss with him your problems and to make suggestions. You, the principals, AND ESPECIALLY THE CLASSROOM TEACHERS, are the ones who truly build the curriculum.

The curriculum is not a theoretical or technical treaties conceived by any one individual from a swivel chair behind an office desk, but rather the compilation of principles born out of pupil-teacher contact. Like teaching, curriculum is growth, never static, and it is continuously being built in the classroom.

I wish to express once again my appreciation for the whole hearted cooperation which the teaching staff of the Island has always given this office in helping solve problems so vital to the welfare of our children.

Very truly yours,

Signed--JOSE M. GALLARDO
Commissioner of Education